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## The Barghoorn Case

Prof. Frederick C. Barghoorn of Yale spoke aptly when he noted that "there are many inexplicable and mysterious aspects" of his seizure by Soviet authorities.

One theory has it that he was the victim of petty bureaucratic bungling. Another holds that Prof. Barghoorn's arrest was engineered by officials hostile to Khrushchev's co-existence policies. A third speculates that he was used as some kind of warning to the United States or to the Soviet satellites.

But there is a chance that the Soviets meant what they said when they accused Prof. Barghoorn of spying. Spying, in the Communist lexicon, covers a wide field, from filching military secrets to asking innocent questions of Soviet citizens.

From our point of view, Prof. Barghoorn was not a spy and was not engaged in espionage, which is a clandestine enterprise. But his research into the motivations of the Soviet masses, even though done openly, could be perhaps more important to our intelligence officials than any number of confidential docu-

ments spirited out of the Kremlin by ravishing blonde agents.

Allan Dulles, former head of the Central Intelligence Agency, once said that intelligence is 90 per cent non-secret information. Books, periodicals, learned papers, speeches—these are the grist from which comes our knowledge of the Soviet Union. The secret 10 per cent — while often dramatic — is only a small part of the total picture.

"It is difficult for a Soviet Communist to believe that there can be such a thing as objective social research," said Prof. Barghoorn. There is the nub of the issue. Free men believe that the truth is above and apart from political regimes. Communists believe that there is no such thing as objective truth. They see the social sciences as mere tools of the class struggle.

The curious thing is why the Soviet authorities ever let Prof. Barghoorn set foot in Russia. They undoubtedly were familiar with his previous books, and they had been told what he planned to do on this trip. Their boorish behavior shows how extraordinarily touchy they are on matters dealing with the running of the Communist system.

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